Attorney's Docket No.: 13466-002005

Applicant: Thomas G. Woolston

Serial No.: 09/670,562

Filed: September 27, 2000

Page : 2 of 7

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-10. (Canceled)

(11)

11 (Currently Amended) A <u>computer network-based</u> method for facilitating commerce at an internet-based auction, the method comprising:

authorizing a first seller participant to post, using a computer system associated with the seller participant, an item for auction at an internet auction site;

receiving, at a communication handler program executing on a host computer system, information from the first seller participant participant's computer system about an the item to be auctioned, the received information including a designation of a category, selected by the seller participant from a list of eategories, categories displayed on the seller participant's computer system, under which the item is to be auctioned;

processing the received information at the host computer system into a presentation format with a database-to-presentation format formatting program, the presentation format including an indication of the category of the item to be auctioned;

presenting the presentation formatted information to a plurality of internet participants; and

receiving at the host computer <u>system</u> at least one bid for the auctioned item from at least one of the internet participants.

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12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11 further comprising:
receiving at the host computer system payment information from the bidding internet participant.

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(Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 further comprising: opening an auction process to the plurality of internet participants; and

Attorney's Docket No.: 13466-002005

Applicant: Thomas G. Woolston

Serial No.: 09/670,562

Page : 3 of 7

Filed: September 27, 2000

automatically closing the auction process to the internet participants based on a predetermined condition.

(14) (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 further comprising: receiving the bid for the auctioned item via a world-wide web page server interface.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12 further comprising:
receiving payment information from the bidding participant, the received payment information being associated with the received bid.

(17)

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11 15 further comprising:

wherein the payment information received from the bidding internet participant includes information identifying a credit card account, and further comprising passing the credit card account information to a clearinghouse and receiving authorization from the clearinghouse that payment with the credit card has cleared.

(Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 further comprising:
receiving payment information from the bidding participant;
clearing the payment information and transferring legal ownership of the item to the bidding participant.

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